

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method of manufacturing patterned glass sheets having a visual appearance simulating an appearance of antique glass, the method comprising:

providing a furnace or melter;

providing first and second opposing rollers which define a nip therebetween, and providing at least one of the first and second rollers with an antique glass pattern comprising a plurality of intersecting ridges of different lengths defined in an exterior surface thereof, wherein at least some of the ridges intersect one another at angles of from about 5-80 degrees;

a ribbon of glass exiting the furnace or melter and proceeding toward the nip;

the ribbon of glass reaching the nip between the first and second rollers at a temperature of from about 1,900-2,400° F;

forming an antique pattern in at least one surface of the glass ribbon in the nip, by causing the antique glass pattern to be transferred from the at least one roller to the ribbon of glass;

the patterned glass ribbon exiting the nip;

annealing the patterned glass ribbon after the ribbon has left the nip; and

cutting the patterned glass ribbon into a plurality of sheets which simulate antique glass sheets from a visual perspective.

2. The method claim 1, wherein the antique pattern is provided on only one of the first and second rollers.

3. The method of claim 1, wherein the patterned ribbon exits the nip at a temperature of from about 1,100-1,600° F.

4. The method claim 1, wherein each of the first and second rollers are liquid cooled in a manner such that liquid within the first and second rollers

is at a temperature substantially less than a temperature of the glass ribbon when the ribbon is in the nip between the first and second rollers.

5. The method of claim 1, wherein an average height of the ridges is from about 0.0001-0.030 inches.

6. The method of claim 1, wherein an average height of the ridges is from about 0.0005-0.005 inches.

7. The method of claim 1, wherein the ribbon of glass reaches the nip between the first and second rollers at a temperature of from about 2,000-2,300° F.

8. The method of claim 7, wherein the ribbon of glass reaches the nip between the first and second rollers at a temperature of from about 2,100-2,200° F.

9. A method of manufacturing antique patterned glass sheets, the method comprising:

providing a furnace or melter;

providing first and second opposing rollers which define a nip therebetween, and providing at least one of the first and second rollers with a pattern including a plurality of intersecting ridges of different lengths defined in an exterior surface thereof;

a ribbon of glass exiting the furnace or melter and proceeding toward the nip;

the ribbon of glass reaching the nip between the first and second rollers at a temperature of from about 1,900-2,400° F;

forming a pattern in at least one surface of the glass ribbon at the nip, by causing the pattern to be transferred from the at least one roller to the ribbon of glass;

the patterned glass ribbon exiting the nip; and
cutting the patterned glass ribbon into a plurality of antique patterned glass sheets.

10. A patterned glass sheet aesthetically resembling a conventional antique glass sheet, the patterned glass sheet comprising:

a sheet of glass including first and second opposing major surfaces;

a pattern simulating a conventional antique pattern defined in at least one of said first and second major surfaces of said sheet of glass;

wherein said pattern includes a plurality of intersecting striations of different lengths formed by a pattern roller and defined in said surface of said sheet, said striations being formed of glass; and

wherein certain of said striations intersect others of the striations in a manner such that the pattern simulates a conventional antique pattern.

11. The glass sheet of claim 10, wherein at least some of the striations have a depth of from 0.0001 to 0.030 inches.

12. The glass sheet of claim 11, wherein at least some of the striations have a depth of from 0.0005 to 0.005 inches.

13. The glass sheet of claim 10, wherein certain of said striations intersect others of said striations at angles of from about 5-80 degrees.

14. The glass sheet of claim 10, wherein certain of said striations intersect others of said striations at angles of from about 5-60 degrees.

15. The glass sheet of claim 10, wherein certain of said striations intersect others of said striations at angles of from about 5-50 degrees.

16. A method of manufacturing antique patterned glass sheets, the method comprising:

providing a furnace or melter;

providing first and second opposing rollers which define a nip therebetween, and providing at least one of the first and second rollers with a pattern including a plurality of intersecting ridges of different lengths defined in an exterior surface thereof;

a ribbon of glass exiting the furnace or melter and proceeding toward the nip;

forming an antique pattern in at least one surface of the glass ribbon at the nip, by causing the pattern to be transferred from the at least one roller to the ribbon of glass;

the antique patterned glass ribbon exiting the nip; and

cutting the antique patterned glass ribbon into a plurality of antique patterned glass sheets.

